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833 fixed at once a day, till they arrive at their sixtieth year. All these are considered nothing unusual and such intercourse is not considered as too frequent.

[841] As regards ritual continence, coitus is stopped during menstruation for a period of seven days or [843] so. During pregnancy, the Santal gives up sexual intercourse when the woman is about her fifth month and resumes it about the third month after child-birth.

838 So far as the prevalence and censure of sexual deviations are concerned, we gathered that homo-sexuality is almost unknown amongst the Santals.

839 Masturbation is sometimes indulged in by boys while tending cows in the fields, but not much of attention is paid to these, as such cases are rare. Bestiality and sodomy are hated as abhorrent to human nature. Should such cases occur, the guilty ones are fined and a formal purification ceremony takes place. A Ṭika Murmu offers pujas to Maraṅ Buru and parties previously outcasted are taken back to the tribal-fold after the penance.